

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 2 shows a system employing a quality-of-service manager (205 and 210) in each of a plurality of nodes coupled over an IEEE 1394 bus according to one aspect of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 2, two computer nodes ~~250 and 260~~ are coupled through a bus such as the IEEE 1394 bus. As is conventional, each node includes a 1394 hardware card (207 and 208, respectively) and an appropriate 1394 bus driver (206 and 209, respectively) that collectively permit the nodes to communicate using the 1394 bus.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

In step 309, the receiving node checks to determine whether resources (e.g., an isochronous channel and suitable bandwidth) are available. For example, in certain systems the IEEE 1394 bus may be configured to permit each node to allocate a maximum number (e.g., four) of isochronous data channels. If the intended recipient node had already allocated this maximum number of channels, then no further resources would be available for allocation.